**Context**

The Confraternity Carnival is coordinated by the Executive Committee of QISSRL (Queensland Independent Secondary Schools Rugby League) and hosted by member schools. There is a need to very clear about expectations for the Opening & Closing Ceremonies. Whilst host schools will add their particular “flavour” to these there are certain expectations that all host schools must meet.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this advice is to name aspects of best practice for the Opening & Closing Ceremonies. Host schools need to adhere to the basic principles of this advice and consult with the QISSRL Executive about any significant changes.

**Guidelines**

Host schools are advised to:

Ensure that the Opening & Closing Ceremonies ae well prepared and adhere to the following

* The Opening Ceremony contains the following: Acknowledgement of Country; Welcome by Host School Principal; Address by QISSRL President; Address by Operations’ Manager (if required); Host School Convenor’s Address.
* Invited guests to the Opening Ceremony might be invited to speak but consideration needs to be given to the nature of the event and the appropriateness of the speeches – if in doubt consult with the Operations’ Manager
* Lists of Official Guests and their role / contribution to the Carnival need to be forwarded to the President of QISSRL at least two weeks prior to the Opening Ceremony
* A procession of jerseys or some such ritual which acknowledges the competing teams could take place as part of the Opening Mass or as part of the Opening Ceremony – this would be a decision make locally
* The Confraternity Pledge would be read by the Captain of the Host School’s Team on behalf of the competing players in the presence of the QISSRL President, Principal of the Host School and a representative of the referees.
* The Confraternity Pledge is as follows: On behalf of all players from all teams, I pledge that we will represent our school to the best of our ability, on and off the field. We will show sportsmanship at all times. We will show respect at all times to our team mates, opposition players, coaches, managers, referees and officials. We pledge not to be physically or verbally abusive to any other player during the carnival. We will approach all aspects of the carnival positively. And we strive to follow the greatest teaching of Jesus and treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves.
* The Closing Ceremony will largely be coordinated by the Operations’ Manager and the QISSRL Executive – assistance from the host school will be required for the infrastructure needed e.g. venue, PA system, and other things as required.

By:

* Assisting with the seating and any movement of students
* ensuring that the programme and any AV presentations are able to be seen clearly by all
* establishing the tone for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies
* liaising with the QISSRL Executive on all matters pertaining to these ceremonies